Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 USIA-06 NSC-05 SS-15 NEA-10 L-03 OES-07 AF-10 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 NRC-05 IO-13 ERDE-00 /136 W

PR 011811Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5774

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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TAGS: EEC, MNUC, ENRG, TECH, CIEC, ECIN

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN COUNCIL, JUNE 29-30, 1977: HIGHLIGHTS

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 6879; (B) EC BRUSSELS 3214;

(C) BRUSSELS 5771; (D) BRUSSELS 6551

(E) EC BRUSSELS 3511

SUMMARY. THE JUNE 29-30 EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN LONDON WAS CHARACTERIZED BY UK PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN (THE COUNCIL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESIDENT) AS "STRONG ON DISCUSSION AND NOT SO STRONG ON DECISION." IN ADDITION TO THEIR DECLARATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST, THE EC HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ALSO DISCUSSED THE GENERAL ECONOMIC SITUATION, EAST-WEST RELATIONS, AFRICA, THE DOWNING STREET SUMMIT, AND EC ENLARGEMENT (ALL REPORTED SEPTELS). HIGHLIGHTS OF THEIR DISCUSSION OF CIEC AND OTHER ISSUES ARE SET FORTH BELOW. END

SUMMARY.

- 1. CIEC: CALLAGHAN TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT HAD ENGAGED MORE IN AN EVALUATION OF CIEC THAN A "LOOKING AHEAD." THEY DID NOT, HE SAID, TAKE ANY VIEW ON CIEC FOLLOW-UP.
- 2. JOINT EUROPEAN TORUS: THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT REACHED NO DECISION ON THE OUESTION OF A SITE FOR THE JET (EC BRUSSELS 3214; BRUSSELS 5771; AND BRUSSELS 6551), REFERRING THE QUESTION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS, WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO TRY TO REACH A DECISION AT THEIR JULY 25-26 COUNCIL MEETING. ACCORDING TO PERM REP SOURCES, FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT SOUGHT TO INTRODUCE A LINK BETWEEN AGREEMENT ON CULHAM AS THE JET SITE AND UK AGREEMENT TO ADOPTION OF A EUROPEAN UNIT OF ACCOUNT FOR BUDGETARY PUR-POSES (EC BRUSSELS 3511). CALLAGHAN REJECTED SUCH A LINK, HOWEVER, INSISTING THAT BOTH ISSUES SHOULD BE DE-CIDED SEPARATELY ON THEIR OWN MERITS. DANISH OFFICIALS TOLD REPORTERS THAT PRIME MINISTER JOERGENSEN WOULD ALSO SEEK TO INTRODUCE A LINK BETWEEN JET AND THE UK'S JUNE 29 BAN ON HERRING FISHING, BUT UK OFFICIALS TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE DANES DID NOT FORMALLY RAISE THIS POINT. COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE WITH THE LACK OF A DECISION ON JET, BUT SAID THE COMMISSION WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PART IN TRYING TO GET A SETTLEMENT.

3. CALLAGHAN TOLD REPORTERS THAT, IF IT WERE NOT POSSIBLE TO REACH A COMMUNITY AGREEMENT, HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE WHETHER BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS COULD BE WORKED OUT IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP THE PRESENT CULHAM TEAM (WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS 40 OF THE BEST MEN IN THE WORLD)

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IN PLACE. THE BENEFIT, HE SAID, WOULD BE THAT THE PROJECT COULD BE KEPT IN EUROPE, EVEN IF IT WERE NOT AN EC PROJECT. HE CONCLUDED BY EXPRESSING HOPE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS COULD AGREE ON CULHAM. BEFORE THE MEETING, CALLAGHAN RECEIVED A LETTER, IN HIS CAPACITY AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT, FROM THE UNIONS REPRESENTING PERSONNEL OF THE EC'S JOINT RESEARCH CENTER CRITICIZING THE LINK MAINTAINED BY THE UK SINCE MARCH, 1977 BETWEEN JET AND THE ADOPTION OF THE JRC MULTIANNUAL PROGRAM (EC BRUSSELS 3214). THE LETTER ASKED THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL UNBLOCK THE JRC PROGRAM AND INSTRUCT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO FORMALLY ADOPT IT.

5. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ENGAGED IN A BRIEF DISCUSSION OVER POSSIBILITIES FOR TRANSFERRING PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITIES TO BRUSSELS AND THE ISSUE OF SALARIES FOR MEMBERS OF A DIRECTLY ELECTED PARLIAMENT. CALLAGHAN TOLD REPORTERS THEY TOOK NO DECISIONS AND WILL TAKE UP THE MATTER AGAIN AT THEIR NEXT MEETING. CALLAGHAN SAID THERE WAS A REVIEW OF THE STATUS OF MEMBER STATE LEGISLATION ON DIRECT ELECTIONS, ADDING THAT "THE UK SEEMS TO BE AS FAR ADVANCED AS ANYONE AS FAR AS I CAN SEE."

- 6. EUROPEAN COUNCIL PROCEDURES: THERE WAS A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF IMPROVING EUROPEAN COUNCIL PROCEDURES.
- 7. UK PRESIDENCY: CALLAGHAN TOLD REPORTERS HE THOUGHT THE UK PRESIDENCY HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL. HE DENIED THAT LEFT-WING SNIPING FROM THE LEFT-WING OF HIS PARTY HAD UNDERMINED THE PRESIDENCY.

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